

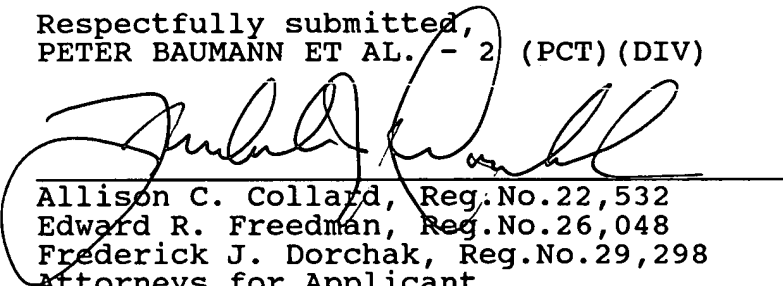
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 26-39. By this Preliminary Amendment, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1, the specification has been amended to correct clerical errors and to add an Abstract, claims 1-25 have been canceled, claims 26-39 have been added. Claims 26-39 are directed to the ring-shaped filter insert per se and contain one or more features recited in the claims in the parent case which are directed to the combination of the ring-shaped filter insert and liquid filter.

It is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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ENCL.: ABSTRACT
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